625 blown up and water works wrecked if the Com-
648 munists had had their way. The lives of responsible personages would have been in constant danger, too. Then, the risk of internal trouble during a possible invasion from outside would have been very grave."[17] It appears that, in order to save Formosa from Communist domination, rigid government control may not be entirely indefensible.

722 During the past few years, as conditions
698 on the island grew more stable, the Nationalist
693 Government has been taking measures to guard against unwarranted arrest and imprisonment. In a decree issued on January 29, 1951, the Executive Yuan prescribed that public defenders should be provided in the military court to defend persons accused of violating martial law in cases where the minimum punishment would be not less than five years' imprisonment. A spouse, lineal blood relative, collateral blood relative within third degree, or a statutory agent may be present at the trial and testify on behalf of the accused.

722 Since 1949 Formosa has been subject to
698 martial law. Article 8 provides that the following offenses committed in strategic zones may be tried by the military court: (a) offenses against the internal security of the state, (b) against the external security of the state, (c) against public order, (d) against public safety, (e) forgery, counte r feiting of currency, valuable securities, documents, (f) murder or homicide, (g) restraining personal liberty, (h) snatching, robbery, and piracy, (i) intimidation and kidnapping, and (j) malicious mischief. If provisions

17. Lih-wu Han, op. cit., p. 49.

722 of martial law should be strictly applied, the
698 military court would replace the civil courts of
law in Formosa. However, orders issued by the Executive Yuan on June 1, 1952 and reissued on October 14, 1954, restrict the jurisdiction of the military court. The order of October 14, 1954, specifies that military courts have jurisdiction only in those cases involving espionage and insurrection; all other offenses are to be tried in civil court. This order seeks to protect the rights and freedoms of the people of Formosa against infringement by over-zealous, defense-minded militarists. "